

Senate Resolution 354

By: Senators Jones of the 10th, Jackson of the 2nd, Anderson of the 43rd and Davenport of the 44th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing March 22, 2019, as Children's Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the future of Georgia depends on the ability of today's children to grow into productive workers, loving parents, engaged citizens, and visionary leaders; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia has made significant gains in recent years, including an increasing percentage of Georgia's high school students who graduate on time and a reduction in the number of youths who are detained or incarcerated; and
- 7 WHEREAS, despite this, Georgia's children continue to struggle to meet high standards of health, education, family stability, and employability and to compete nationally and internationally; and
- 10 WHEREAS, 21 percent of children in Georgia live in poverty, and 61 percent of students qualify for free and reduced-price lunches; and
- 12 WHEREAS, all children, especially children in foster care and those with disabilities or health challenges or without family guidance, need the appropriate resources and support from the local community and state to achieve success; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Georgia state agencies, including the Departments of Community Health, Public Health, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Early Care and Learning, Education, Human Services, and Juvenile Justice; the Georgia Bureau of Investigation; and the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, are setting higher goals for improving the lives of children and collaborating more closely to achieve their goals; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Voices for Georgia's Children, a nonprofit organization, has convened child-serving and child advocacy organizations for Children's Day at the state capitol to

22 encourage lawmakers to recognize the impact of public policy and programs on all aspects
23 of children's well-being; and

24 WHEREAS, the goal of Children's Day is to increase the commitment of all Georgians to
25 children and children's issues by providing current research, information, and policy
26 suggestions through a celebratory event at the state capitol.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 recognize March 22, 2019, as Children's Day at the state capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Voices for
31 Georgia's Children.